

# HR in brief

## Tangled Toes, Pins & Needles

Possibly South Africa's most inspirational light read of 2011. Paralysed in a terrible car crash at the age of 19, Richard Pike found the will to walk again, and ultimately climbed to the top of South Africa's corporate ladder.

### About the book

En route to a rowing regatta in East London, Richard Pike and his fellow crewmates experienced a horrific car accident. A crash that would change his life forever. Richard, a promising oarsman about to embark on a degree at Wits University in 1981, was cut down in the prime of his youth. Told he would never walk again. Everything seemed lost.

In the motivational spirit of Tuesdays with Morrie and The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari, this book is an inspirational and true account of a young man who found the strength to overcome adversity against all odds, learning many invaluable lessons about life along the way.

Today, as CEO of Adcorp Holdings Limited, Richard tells the story of his harrowing experience with candid, quintessentially South African humour. His journey teaches us that the trials of life are lessons that have the power to make us stronger and smarter individuals in the business world.

### About the author

Richard Pike, a Chartered Accountant, is the CEO of JSE-listed Adcorp Holdings Limited. Author of numerous business articles, he is also the co-author of *The New Divide*, a provocative new book suggesting that a radical change in mindset is needed to solve South Africa's pressing unemployment challenges.

Richard is an experienced public speaker and is a prominent member of various special interest business groups.

## Softline VIP extends African footprint into Zimbabwe

A landmark agreement with Omni Africa, based in Harare, sees Softline VIP, part of Softline and Sage Group plc, increasing its footprint into Sub-Saharan Africa by establishing a partner network in Zimbabwe. Omni Africa is well represented in Zimbabwe, making the partnership with Softline VIP a logical next step in giving the payroll operators in Zimbabwe the security of a familiar and established operator that can be approached with confidence.

Softline VIP, recognised as a leader in the Payroll and HR management industry in Africa, released Premier Payroll, an innovative software solution that caters for the African market. It is customised to be country specific taking into account the legislation and required statutory reports that are needed to run payroll and HR management software with confidence. The Zimbabwean suite of products includes regulatory requirements from the Zimbabwean Revenue Services (ZIMRA) as well as the National Social Security Authority (NSSA) that makes the implementation of the product much easier.

Omni Africa is extremely confident of the product. The implementation process facilitated a smooth transition from the current software to the new management solution. The new system came into effect at the end of February 2011, carrying the stamp of approval from Omni Africa.

The feedback has been very positive with clients finding Softline VIP's payroll programme easily customised and stable with easy navigation and a logical layout. They are currently training users to familiarise them with the product in order to optimise utilisation and aid the transition process.

Economic growth in Africa makes the Softline VIP payroll system the ideal solution for small to large corporations that require flexible software with ease of use and stability. Softline VIP is currently operating and expanding services in Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, DRC, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar and Malawi, with Zimbabwe being the newest addition to the operation.

For further information, you can direct an e-mail to

SageVIP.Africa@vipppayroll.co.za or contact the Africa sales desk on 0027 420 7241.

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